

~~Box 1450~~

JSu

IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OFFICE

APPLICANT: Robert S. Crawford TITLE: MEDICAL DEVICE CARRIER
SERIAL NO: 10/710,429 ART UNIT: 3618
FILING DATE: 07/09/2004 EXAMINER: Jeffrey J. Restifo
DOCKET NO.: 10051.003 PATENT NO.: 6,964,422

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the following paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450:

- Request for Withdrawal by Attorney as Fee Addressee (triplicate) 2 pgs.;
- Copy of Letter to Robert S. Crawford (3 pgs.);
- Certificate of Mailing; and
- Stamped Return Postcard.

11/22/2005
Date

Sue Butler
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November 18, 2005

SENT CERTIFIED MAIL

Return Receipt Requested – Article 7002 2410 0005 9518 8187

Robert S. Crawford
30120 Oak Shadows Drive
Walker, LA 70785

Re: Patent Issued
“MEDICAL DEVICE CARRIER”
U.S. Patent Number 6,964,422
Our File: 10051.003

Dear Mr. Crawford,

Enclosed is the Official U.S. Letters Patent for the above-referenced invention, which evidences your patent rights. Please keep this original document in a safe place where it is not likely to become lost or stolen.

Also note that you must, under the present law, pay to the Patent Office three maintenance fees on or before the following dates:

| | | |
|--------------|---|------------|
| May 15, 2009 | - | \$ 450.00 |
| May 15, 2013 | - | \$1,150.00 |
| May 15, 2017 | - | \$1,900.00 |

Failure to timely pay these maintenance fees will result in the cancellation of your patent rights. Please note that these fees are subject to change per Patent Office rules, and may also change if the patent owner's entity status changes. Typically, there is an update of the Patent Office fees once per calendar year. These amounts should be verified prior to paying any maintenance fees.

Although our law firm does maintain a date calendaring system, we will not assume the responsibility of reminding you when the maintenance fees are due. You must maintain your own calendaring system. Please be advised that this patent will expire August 21, 2022, which is twenty years from the first filing date.

ROY, KIESEL, KEEGAN & DeNICOLA

Mr. Robert S. Crawford
November 18, 2005
Page 2 of 3

One other deadline of which you should be aware is the deadline to file a broadening reissue application. A reissue application seeking to broaden the scope of the claims of your patent may be filed as late as two years after the patent issued, in your case, as late as November 15, 2007. A reissue application may still be filed after that date, but only narrowed claims may be sought.

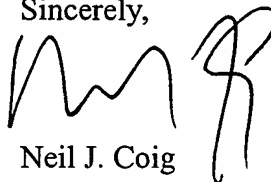
Enclosed are copies of papers which we will file with the Patent Office indicating we are withdrawing as attorney of record and instructing the Patent Office to forward directly to you any notices or other correspondence relating to your patent.

Remember that products employing the patent should be physically marked with the patent number (e. g. U.S. Patent 6,964,422). Please be sure to read and follow the enclosed insert entitled, "Patent Marking" for additional information. Valuable rights will be lost if you fail to properly mark your device as patented.

Finally, you may also wish to record your patent with the U.S. Customs Service to aid in the prevention of the importation of counterfeit or diverted genuine products. The U.S. Customs fee for recording a registration is approximately \$250 per class; our fees for preparing the formal documents would be added to this amount, based on an hourly schedule.

Again, congratulations on obtaining patent protection on your invention, and if I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Neil J. Coig". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "N" and a distinct "C" at the end.

Neil J. Coig

NJC/jsb

*Enclosures: US Letters Patent
Request for Withdrawal as Attorney of Record
Patent marking information*

PATENT MARKING

1. The Need for Marking

Every article or composition of matter employing the patented invention should be marked with the patent number. Failure to properly mark your invention can result in loss of valuable remedies against infringers of your patent rights. For instance, improper marking will bar recovery of damages for patent infringement until actual notification of infringement is provided to the infringers.

2. How to Mark

Proper marking must use the term patent and the patent number as follows: Patent 6,616,418 or Pat. 6,616,418. Improper marking, for instance, would be "Patented" without an indication of the patent number. If it is possible to physically mark the invention with the patent number, you should do so. If, because of the character of the invention, such as a liquid or size limitations of the article, it is not possible to mark the invention directly with the patent number, then you may alternatively mark the patent number upon: either (1) the packaging wherein one or more patented articles is contained; or (2) a label fixed to the patented article. If an alternate form of marking is used (i.e. marking the packaging or affixing a label), it is important that no other markings appear on the patented article, such as foundry numbers, dates, manufacturer's identification numbers, etc. Please be sure to mark each and every article employing the patent. If an article is covered by more than one patent, each patent number should be marked on the article. If your patent is on a method, mark the device or devices used to practice the method and mark any brochures or other documents which describe the method. We suggest that you keep records to document your marking efforts, including documentation of when and how marking was begun and documenting any changes to your marking.

3. Who Must Mark

The patentee is responsible for ensuring proper marking. Consequently, if you license the making or selling of your patented articles, then you must ensure that your licensee properly marks the patented article.

If you license the making or selling of patented articles, we suggest that you have a form letter to be signed by those responsible for marking wherein the marking duties are specified and the person signing acknowledges his/her marking duties. Further, we suggest you periodically check that your licensee performs his/her marking duties, and that you document your efforts to police your licensees with marking responsibilities.

4. Review your Marking Practices

If an item is improperly marked as patented when it is not, you can be exposed to damages for "patent mis-marking." This can occur, for instance, when your initial patented invention changes as you incorporate design improvements, or when you change to a more efficient manufacturing process which requires changes in your product design. The changes to the product could be of a nature that the changed product is no longer covered by the patent. For this reason, we suggest that you periodically review your inventions and your marking practices. Times for review can be when new or changed products are introduced, during negotiations for licensing of your patent, and when maintenance fees are due. Such a review will help ensure that you do not mis-mark, and additionally, will help identify products for which you may wish to seek patent protection.

5. Cease Marking at Expiration of Patent Term

Continued marking of an item as patented after the patent has expired or is invalidated, could expose you to charges of mis-marking. While the law in this area is uncertain, we suggest that when the patent term expires, you cease marking your items as patented.